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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

17 FEB 1993

IN REPLY REFER TO:  
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FEB 23 1993

Honorable John C. Danforth  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Dear Senator Danforth:

This is in reply to your letter of January 29, 1993, in which you inquired on behalf of several of your constituents regarding the Notice of Proposed Rule Making (Notice) in PR Docket No. 92-235, 57 FR 54034 (1992). This Notice proposes comprehensive changes to the Commission's Rules governing the private land mobile radio services operating in the frequency bands below 512 MHz.

Those rules have been in place for over 20 years. While they have been amended on numerous occasions since that time, they nonetheless embody regulatory concepts based on yesteryear's technology and, unless changed, will stifle the growth and development of private land mobile radio technology and services, which are used primarily by local governments, public safety entities, and businesses to enhance their productivity. The Commission issued the Notice, therefore, to solicit comment from all interested persons on a wide variety of proposals designed to increase channel capacity, to promote more efficient use of these channels, and to simplify the rules governing use of these channels.

The proposals in the Notice reflect to a large extent concepts and proposals submitted in the initial inquiry stages of this proceeding. None of the proposals set forth in the Notice, however, are engraved in stone. Indeed, the proposals represent our best judgment at this stage of the proceeding on steps that must be taken to improve the regulatory climate for users of the private land mobile radio spectrum below 512 MHz. To this end, some of the critical issues that must be resolved relate to channel spacing, the amount of time provided to users to convert to new technical standards, how the 300 to 500 percent increase in channel capacity should be licensed, how the rules should be written to provide users technical flexibility, and whether the current nineteen radio services should be consolidated and, if so, how. I have enclosed for your information a copy of that part of the Notice that describes the numerous proposals.

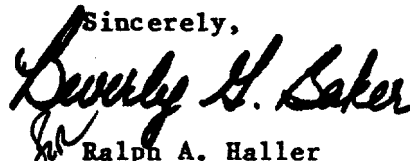
Your constituents are specifically concerned about the impact of these changes on radio control (R/C) hobby users. Enclosed is a discussion paper concerning our proposals for the 72-76 MHz band. In short, we expect there would be no adverse impact on R/C operations because of any proposal contained in the Notice.

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We are, of course, sensitive to the concerns of both users of private land mobile radio spectrum and R/C hobbyists. We will, therefore, take into careful consideration all their comments. Your constituents' concerns will be fully evaluated when we develop final rules in this proceeding. As indicated in the Notice, we remain convinced that without significant regulatory change in radio operations in the bands below 512 MHz, the quality of communications in the private land mobile radio services will continue to deteriorate to the point of endangering public safety and the national economy.

We want to thank you for your interest in this proceeding. Comments on the proposals set forth in the Notice are due May 28, 1993, and Reply Comments are due July 14, 1993. We expect final rules to be issued in 1994. We urge your constituents to file formal comments on all aspects of the proposals.

Sincerely,  
  
Ralph A. Haller  
Chief, Private Radio Bureau

Enclosures:  
Notice  
Order  
Discussion paper

cc:  
Chief, PRBureau  
Chief, LM&M Divison  
Deputy Chief, LM&M Division  
Lou Sizemore, Room 857  
Docket Files, Room 222  
Licensing Div., PRB, c/o Room 5202  
P&P Branch Files

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# Congressional

DUE 2-11-93

PLEASE MAKE 2 EXTRA COPIES OF INCOMING, ATTACHMENTS,  
AND REPLY FOR DOCKET FILE, ROOM 222.

## CONGRESSIONAL CORRESPONDENCE TRACKING SYSTEM 02/03/93

### LETTER REPORT

CONTROL NO.	DATE RECEIVED	DATE OF CORRESP	DATE DUE	DATE DUE OLA(857)
9300382	02/03/93	01/29/93	02/17/93	

TITLE	MEMBERS NAME	REPLY FOR SIG OF
Senator	John Danforth	BC

CONSTITUENT'S NAME	SUBJECT
several	inq. comments on PR Docket 92-235

REF TO	REF TO	REF TO	REF TO
PRB/Kmmid			

DATE	DATE	DATE	DATE
02/03/93			

REMARKS:

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## United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,  
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

PRB  
92-235  
382

January 29, 1993

Mr. Steven Klitzman  
Associate Director, Legislative Affairs  
Federal Communications Commission  
1919 M Street, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20554

Dear Mr. Klitzman:

I have heard from over 100 Missouri constituents who are concerned about proposed revisions to the Private Land Mobile Radio Services. Enclosed is a copy of one such letter.

I would appreciate receiving information on this matter at your earliest convenience.

Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

  
John C. Danforth

Enclosure

RECEIVED  
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PRIVATE  
FEB 4 1993

January 20, 1993

Honorable John C. Danforth  
United States Senate  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator:

I have spent many years of enjoyment constructing and operating radio controlled model airplanes. I belong to several local clubs whose members share a common interest. Between the building tools, airplane kits, radios, engines, finishing materials, all add up to a large investment. Joy abounds by the camaraderie that develops between father and son or daughter, grandfather and grandchildren by building and operating their model together. Kids sharing the hobby with an adult, learn how to use their hands and minds. Kids in R/C hobby aren't gang members!

I am very concerned about what has been proposed by the Federal Communications Commission. The proceeding is PR Docket 92-235. If adopted the rule will greatly reduce the usability of frequencies currently assigned for radio control model usage. It will increase the risk of accidents and attendant liability.

Our radio controlled frequencies are in the 72/76 MHz band. This band is primarily used for private land mobile dispatch operations. Presently our radio-control frequencies in this band are far enough apart from the land mobile frequencies that we co-exist by not interfering with one another.

The Notice Of Proposed Rule Making (NOPRM) in PR Docket 92-235 replaces part 90 of the rules with a new Part 88. Part 90 allows safe use of ~~radio controlled aircraft and~~ surface models by keeping 10 KHz spacing between fixed commercial users and frequencies used by R/C enthusiast. The new Part 88 will allow mobile users on frequencies within 2.5 KHz of frequencies available to us, eradicating safe use of at least 31 of 50 channels on the 72 Mhz band for R/C aircraft and, 10 of 30 frequencies on the 75 Mhz band for R/C cars and boats.

In supervised R/C model operation safety is paramount, for the spectators, operators, and property. Coordination of radio frequencies used simultaneously dictates our safety control and are strictly observed. Reduction of frequencies increases chances of accidents due to adjacent channel interference.

I think its unfair for the FCC to consider expanding the operations of land mobile radio users at the expense of the radio control modelers. The FCC must think we are not as worthy of radio frequency usage as the user of business radio. As individuals our power is how we vote, as an industry we contribute a sizable income to our nation. None of what we do contributes to the sales of drugs or the delinquency of children. The mobile communications industry can't say that. Is this going to be another scenario of the big guy and his paid lobbyist wins again? I hope not because I have faith in you that's why I'm appealing to you for your help

Please help me continue the safe enjoyment of my pastime by not allowing the FCC to carry out its proposal PR Docket 92-235 for the 72/76 Mhz band. We need your help urgently because the FCC has a deadline of February 26, 1993 after which it may become more difficult to avoid halting these proposals from going into effect.

Cordially,

*Raymond A. Kappen*  
*Retired*